



SECRETARY OF STATE
KEVIN SHELLEY
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

June 30, 2003

TO: ALL COUNTY CLERKS/REGISTRARS OF VOTERS (03130)

SUBJECT: RECALL VERIFICATION PROCESS

The Secretary of State has determined that the proponents of the petition to recall Governor Gray Davis have filed petition sections containing signatures exceeding 10% of the number required to qualify the recall for the ballot. Accordingly, Elections Code section 11104 requires counties to verify the signatures received since the beginning of the recall (March 25, 2003) through Monday, June 16, 2003, to determine how many valid signatures were received during that period. Finally, you must continue to maintain a raw count of the new signatures the proponents submit from June 17 through July 16, 2003.

You must include this information on your next periodic report, due on July 23, 2003. Specifically, you must report to the Secretary of State (1) the number of raw signatures received from June 17, 2003 through July 16, 2003; (2) the cumulative total of all raw signatures submitted since the recall was initiated; (3) the number of verified signatures submitted from May 20, 2003 through June 16, 2003; (4) the number of signatures, if any, that you have chosen to verify during the current reporting period; and (5) the total number of signatures you have verified since the beginning of the recall (March 25, 2003) through July 16, 2003. (Elections Code section 11104(a))

Elections Code section 11104(b) sets forth the verification process for determining valid signatures. It requires you to follow the same process you currently use for verifying signatures on initiative petitions, which is set forth in Elections Code section 9030(d). Under this process, if you are verifying more than 500 signatures, you shall use a random sampling technique for verification of signatures. The random sampling shall include an examination of at least 500 or 3% of the signatures, whichever is greater.

We have included with this memo the Official Signature Verification Guidelines that you should already have in your petition manuals. These guidelines answer many questions about whether the signatures on petition sections should be counted as valid.